

Message Text

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PAGE 01 SEOUL 02403 240929Z
ACTION EA-12

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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: SOPN, KS, US
SUBJ: KOREAN MEDIA ON US-RELATED TOPICS, MAR 24

REF: SEOUL 2261 (DTG 230826Z MAR 78)

1. MANSFIELD INTERVIEW---IN REPORTING AMB MANSFIELD'S 3/23
UPI INTERVIEW, KOREAN-LANGUAGE DALIES GENERALLY NEGLECT OVERALL
THEME OF INCREASING US ATTENTIVENESS TO ASIA, FOCUSING INSTEAD
ON SINGLE STATEMENT THAT US MILITARY POWER IN EAST ASIA
WILL LEVEL OFF AND SHOULD INCREASE AFTER COMPLETION OF PRESENT
TROOP WITHDRAWAL. ENGLISH-LANGUAGE PRESS IS DIVIDED, TIMES
FOLLOWING PATTERN OF VERNACULAR PRESS, HERALD OFFERING
MORE BALANCED REPORT OF THE INTERVIEW.

2. TROOP WITHDRAWAL--MOST PAPERS FEATURE DC DISPATCH
CITING "PENTAGON SOURCES": TRANSFER OF TOW AND HONEST
JOHN MISSILES TO KOREA WILL BEGIN THIS SUMMER, AT THE SAME
TIME AS TROOP REINFORCEMENTS TO 8TH ARMY ARE CURTAILED
IN ANTICIPATION OF 6,000-MAN WITHDRAWAL BY DECEMBER.
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3. KOREAGATE---FACTUAL REPORTING CONTINUES, WITH LITTLE
COMMENTARY, ON KIM HANJO TRIAL. LITTLE REPORTING ON
FRASER SUBCOMMITTEE HEARINGS, THOUGH CHUNGANG ILBO
EDITORIALLY SCATHES THE HEARINGS, THE SUBCOMMITTEE,
REP FRASER, AND CONGRESSIONAL INTEREST GENERALLY IN
KOREAN LOBBYING ACTIVITIES. ALL PAPERS CARRY DC

DISPATCH CITING STATEMENT BY SENS SMITH AND STEVENSON
THAT SENATE ETHICS COMMITTEE WILL REFER TO DOJ PORTIONS
OF PTS' TESTIMONY INDICATING THAT EIGHT PRESENT AND
FORMER SENATORS ACCEPTED "POLITICAL DONATIONS" FROM HIM.
SNEIDER

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